



CITY OF DURHAM
Office of Public Affairs
101 CITY HALL PLAZA
DURHAM, NC 27701



News Media Contact:
Kammie Michael
Public Information Officer
(919) 560-4322 x 29195
Kammie.Michael@DurhamNC.gov
<http://DurhamPolice.com>
<http://Facebook.com/DurhamPoliceDepartment>

News Release

For Immediate Release: January 14, 2016

Durham Man Charged with Shooting at Durham Police Officer

A Durham man was arrested Thursday night and charged with firing shots at a Durham police officer in the McDougald Terrace housing community on January 9.

The man – Syron Deshon Townsend, 28, of Durham – was arrested in Burlington by members of the U.S. Marshals Joint Fugitive Task Force.

The incident happened around 11:30 p.m. on Sima Avenue near Building 6 in McDougald Terrace. Officers were questioning a man when he started to run from them. The man fired shots toward one officer and the officer returned fire. No one was injured.

"We were able to identify a suspect in this case as a result of crucial information provided to us by residents. We are grateful for their assistance," said Interim Durham Police Chief Larry Smith.



Townsend is facing the following charges in connection with this incident: attempted first-degree murder, assault with a deadly weapon (firearm) on a government official, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, injury to property, three counts of assault with a deadly weapon (shots were fired into an occupied apartment), second-degree trespassing, possession of a stolen firearm, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, going armed to the terror of the public, discharging a firearm within the city limits, and resisting, delaying and obstructing a government official.

Townsend is also facing additional charges from 2014 and 2015 which include three counts of assault on a female, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, robbery with a dangerous weapon and intimidating a witness.

The Durham Police Department's Professional Standards Division and Criminal Investigations Division are investigating the Sima Avenue incident, which is standard procedure in any officer-involved shooting.